

probable that the entire Indian force approximated 3,000 warriors, who were daily  
361  
growing / more hostile and more and more reckless. The general direction of  
the entire campaign was in the hands of Red Cloud; Crazy Horse, though inferior  
in social standing to Man Afraid, was Red Cloud's principal lieutenant among the  
Oglalas and Roman Nose from among the Cheyennes. Black Moon was the recognized  
leader of the Missouri River Indians. It was no small task to provision Red Cloud's  
camp and supply them with ammunition, yet he managed his commissary so admirably  
that throughout the two years of the campaign there was no suffering among his  
people and no shortage of ammunition. Hunting parties were sent into the buffalo  
ranges who brought in an abundance of meat and enough of his friends were "good  
in an abundance of meat and enough of his friends were "good Indians," staying about  
the agencies, to secure a supply of ammunition, which was secretly borne away  
to the hostile camp, to keep his arsenal well stocked. The good Indians, too,  
found a ready market for the robes and furs which the hostiles took, and the returns  
from these eked out his subsistence. In every respect Red Cloud subsisted and  
equipped his army better than did the United States government its forlorn hope  
under Carrington.

By this time all of the warehouses at the new fort were finished and it was  
estimated that one large wood train would furnish enough logs to finish the  
hospital, which alone needed attention. Impressed by Powell's report, after an  
affair on the afternoon of the 19th of December, Carrington himself accompanied  
the lumber train of December 20th, built a bridge across to Piney Island to facili-  
tate quick hauling and returned to the fort to prepare for one more, the last,  
trip. No Indians appeared on that date. A large amount of fire wood, including  
all of the slabs from the sawmills, had been accumulated. Carrington was a man  
of great prudence, so prudent indeed as to create great dissatisfaction among  
his subordinates. Some of them, including Fetterman and Brown, offered with  
eighty men to ride through the entire Sioux nation. Carrington was wise enough  
to see that such folly would lead to utter destruction. "Ammunition was running  
low, there was at one time only forty rounds a man available. Repeated requests